

on Green Successes

City Wins Two VML Awards for Green Efforts

The City has received two awards for its 'green' efforts from the Virginia Municipal League (VML): first-place in the 2009 VML Achievement Awards competition and a Certified Green Government recognition.

The City received the Achievements Award for the "Branching Out" tree-planting initiative. The program aims to increase the City's tree canopy from 25 percent to the nationally recognized target of 40 percent for a healthy watershed. "Branching Out" builds upon the City's longstanding commitment of planting trees in public rights of way by expanding the plantings onto private property. The program is implemented via the Neighborhood Tree Program, a public-private partnership of the City and the Falls Church Village Preservation and Improvement Society.

The Certified Green Government Award recognizes the City for successfully implementing environmental policies and taking practical actions to reduce carbon emissions in categories ranging from energy efficiency to land-use and innovation. This was a combined effort of all departments and many divisions. The City received this award for the second-consecutive year.

The VML is a statewide, nonprofit, nonpartisan association of city, town and county governments established in 1905 to improve and assist local governments through legislative advocacy, research, education and other services. The membership includes all 39 cities in the state, 156 towns and 11 counties.

New Rain Garden Improves Water Quality

Neighborhood residents put the finishing touches last Saturday on the City's newest rain garden at Buxton Road and Tyson Drive. The rain garden is one of several projects recently undertaken by the City to improve water quality in the watershed. A grant award to the City from Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation made it possible to undertake these projects. The nonprofit Lands and Water Inc. provided an educational component to teach children about storm water runoff and pollution in our streams.

Pollutants contained in storm water runoff from ultra-urbanized areas, such as Falls Church, are considered a major contributor to the Chesapeake Bay's poor water quality. The City currently holds a Virginia Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) Permit that authorizes the City to discharge storm water runoff through storm drains and pipes and into state-owned waters. The MS4 Permit is a planning document that guides City activities to reduce storm water runoff pollution to the maximum extent practicable. For more information about storm water

quality and how you can help, contact the Department of Environmental Services at 703-248-5080 (TTY 711).



Thanksgiving Holiday Schedule, Nov. 25-27

COMMUNITY CENTER	CLOSED Nov. 26 OPEN Nov. 27
CITY HALL	CLOSED Nov. 26-27
DMV SELECT OFFICE	
MARY RILEY STYLES PUBLIC LIBRARY	
SCHOOLS	
SENIOR CENTER	
COURTS	CLOSED AT NOON Nov. 25
SHERIFF'S OFFICE	CLOSED Nov. 26-27
GEORGE LOCAL TRANSIT	NO SERVICE Nov. 26-27
REFUSE & RECYCLING COLLECTIONS	NO PICKUPS Nov. 26-27
	REFUSE & RECYCLING will be collected Tuesday, Nov. 24 for the Tuesday and Thursday collection areas.
	REFUSE & RECYCLING will be collected Wednesday, Nov. 25 for the Wednesday and Friday collection areas.
	For information about collections, call 703-248-5081 (TTY 711).

www.fallschurchva.gov - The official site for City of Falls Church news

NOVEMBER 2009

19 Environmental Services Council, 7:30 p.m.
Historic Architectural Review Board, 7:30 p.m.

21 Farmers' Market, 8 a.m.-noon
Special Collections City Council Meeting 7:30 p.m.

23 Yard Waste, Bundled Brush and Thursday Collection Zones
24 Refuse & Recycling for Tuesday & Juvenile & Domestic Relations Court in Session

25 General District Court NOT in Session/
School Board, 7:30 p.m.
Offices Close at Noon
Refuse & Recycling for Wednesday & Friday Collection Zones

Questions or Comments?

City of Falls Church, Harry E. Wells Building
300 Park Avenue, Falls Church, VA 22046
703-248-5003 (TTY 711)

The City of Falls Church is committed to the letter and spirit of the Americans with Disabilities Act. This document will be made available in alternate format upon request. Call 703-248-5003 (TTY 711).